

READY FOR SOLONS.

Capitol Being Fixed Up for the Members of the General Assembly.

COMPLEXION OF THE TWO HOUSES

Democrats Will Have a Safe Majority—Many Old Faces Will Be Missed—Work to Be Done and Measures to Come Up.

When the members of the General Assembly, which convenes the first Wednesday in next month, come to Richmond for the winter, they will find their quarters at the Capitol more convenient, complete, and comfortable than ever before. The Solons will not have to run all around town to committee meetings, as was formerly the case, but will have rooms within the Capitol building especially constructed and furnished for this purpose.

The south side of the building on the top floor, which was formerly occupied by the State Library, has been partitioned off into five committee-rooms, all commodious and well lighted, and three additional rooms for committee purposes have been set apart in the basement. The floors of the rooms of the upper story will be covered with linoleum, and those in the basement with asphalt. Other improvements have also been made with a view to facilitating the work of the lawmakers, and making it as agreeable as possible.

OPPOSITION NOT LARGE.

The next Legislature will not be as largely Democratic as has been the case in the past few sessions. The opposition will not be sufficiently large, however, to seriously interfere with the passage of any measures which the Democrats may favor.

There will be many new faces in both branches, and many familiar faces will be missed.

In the Senate, Messrs. Hurt, Berry, Harrison, Parrish, Waitton, and Watts, who have been prominent in the leading debates in that body, some of them for many years, will not be there this winter. Mr. Hurt will be succeeded by Mr. Withers (Democrat), of Danville, a very bright man, who was conspicuous last session in the debates of the House. Judge Berry will be succeeded by J. Thompson Brown, of Nelson. Mr. Watts will be succeeded by Editor Cayler (dependent of the Boones). Then Mr. Walton will be succeeded by McCance (Republican); Dr. French will be succeeded by Flanagan (Republican) and Harrison by Jackson. It is probable that Mr. Flanagan, who is a ready speaker, will lead the opposition in the Senate. He is Commonwealth Attorney for his county, and a well-known Mahone Republican, having been a prominent figure in Republican State conventions for years.

THESE WILL BE MISSED.

In the House many of the leaders, including Messrs. Cardwell, Hunton, Downing, Gibson, Moon, Withrow, Patterson, Legan, Neal, Fentress, Benfield, Crump, Edmonson, Mason, and Boykin, will not return; the two last mentioned having been elected to the Senate.

Messrs. Crump, Hunton, Downing, Moon, Patterson, and others were not candidates for re-election, while Speaker Cardwell and Mr. Neal were elevated to the bench.

Among the Solons who will make their first appearance in the Legislature, and who will constitute the opposition to the Democratic party, are:

Senate—Messrs. Clayton of Roanoke, Park of Patrick, McCune of Shenandoah, Flanagan of Powhatan, and Hale, of Franklin.

House—Messrs. Sims of Augusta, Burman of Botetourt, Banks of Carroll, Hanahan of Craig, Gilliam of Blandine, Turner of Floyd, Stovall of Halifax, Armstrong of Henry, Rogers of King George, Baptist of Mecklenburg, Coles of Northumberland, Adams of Patrick, Cocke and Berger of Pittsylvania, Wade of Louisa, and Rambo and Butt of Washington.

HAVE BEEN THERE BEFORE.

Messrs. Stovall and Wade are the only two veterans Solons in the opposition ranks. Stovall has served twice before in the House, his first service dating back to 1881, when he was a member of the Republicans, and in former years was an active politician. He is probably better informed on parliamentary practices than any man the opposition will have.

Wade was in the House in the session of 1881-82, and is one of the most aggressive speakers the Republicans will have in either branch.

McCune of Shenandoah, who will have a seat in the Senate, will be the only other Democrat in the Senate who has participated in the Senate since the election of Biddleberger in 1881. His election was due only to the fact that Democrats of the district failed to agree on a basis of representation in the nominating convention, and two Democrats ran in the general election and split the vote.

NEW FACES.

Among the new faces in the Democratic ranks will be Dr. Winston, of Hanover, who was elected to succeed Judge Cardwell. He is president of the Virginia Farmers' Alliance, and was one of the delegates to the last Democratic National Convention.

Senator Withers, of Danville, served in the last House, and devoted a great deal of his time to the investigation of the criminal and other expenses of the State. He also favored a constitutional convention, and made a big fight to secure one.

Senator J. Thompson Brown, of Bedford, who succeeds Hon. Taylor Berry, served his county in the House session before last. He is a clear-headed and conservative man, and his opinions, when expressed in the House, were much sought after.

Hon. John F. Ryan, of Loudon, who was chosen Speaker of the House last session, will very likely succeed himself, and the appointment of committees will devolve on him. He will have to select a new chairman of the Finance Committee, as Mr. Moon, who held this responsible position last session, was not returned. Mr. Cooke, of Norfolk, a member of that committee last session, and who was the author of "Watch Dog of the Treasury," will in all probability be made the chairman.

THOSE WHO WILL RETURN.

W. E. Leach, of Rockbridge, who served several sessions past, is coming back to the House. He is a sturdy old Democrat, and a first class gentleman. His impressiveness of his courteous bearing and his splendid flow of words and dignity of expression are well known.

Gen. George J. Hough, of Amelia, will be a good member, sensible and firm, and has the courage of his convictions.

Major W. E. Foster, of Norfolk city, is another old member of the House, and will serve the State acceptably.

John N. Tabb, of Gloucester, was here last session, and is coming back. The State is gainer by his presence. He is both intelligent and affable.

W. W. Berkeley, of Franklin, chairman of the Committee for Courts of Justice, will return to the House. He is full of useful information, a bold talker, and fearless advocate of all measures that he espouses.

OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED.

The election of basement officers, as they are called, will doubtless be had before the Christmas holidays, as their terms of office commence on the 2d of next January.

Thus far no opposition has been heard to Auditor Marry, Second Auditor Ryland, Treasurer Hartman, and Superintendent Lynn. It is said that Phil. E. Brown, Esq., will oppose Register of the Land Office Exps. W. H. Tomney will

oppose Superintendent of Printing O'Bannon, and Colonel Robins will oppose Secretary of the Commonwealth Lawless.

Dr. J. D. Pendleton, the Clerk of the Senate, will be opposed in the Democratic conference by Mr. Joseph Button, of Appomattox. It is probable that there will be several candidates for Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate.

Colonel J. Bell Bigger, Clerk of the House, will, as usual, have no opposition in his party. He is a first-class parliamentarian, extremely obliging, and universally popular. It is probable that the old officer will come back and be retained. The applicants for pages are very numerous. The Richmond delegation has recommended five. There are only seven pages in the House, with its 100 members, and the Senate has four for its forty members.

The subjects of interest that will probably come up in the Legislature are constitutional convention, election law, equalization of taxes, good roads, appropriations to the university and Soldiers Home, and the thousand and one minor matters which make the usual rush near the closing days.

Each house will be called to order at 12 M. on the first Wednesday in December. The President of the Senate, Hon. C. K. Keeler, will preside in that body. Colonel Bigger will call the House to order. Rev. Dr. Moses D. Hoge has, at the invitation of Colonel Bigger, opened the session of the House with prayer on the first day for many years, and he has been requested to do likewise this time.

THE ROLL OF BOTH HOUSES.

Full List of the Members of the Next Senate and House.

The Dispatch presents below a full list of the members of the next General Assembly, giving the districts or counties that they represent and their post-office addresses. The hold-over senators and members of both branches who were re-elected are indicated by the asterisk.

The letter O. signifies that the member thus designated belongs to the opposition.

Hon. George B. Kessel, "the comes to the Senate from Rockingham, has served in both branches. Messrs. J. Thompson Brown, Eugene Withers, E. E. Boykin, and John E. Mason come to the Senate from the House. Senator George J. Handley, who is elected to the House from Amelia and Nottoway, has served in the Senate. Messrs. Boaz, Stovall, Harris, Lester, Gregory, Barber, and Leech served in the House prior to the session of 1893-'94.

The Senate will be composed of 34 Democrats and 6 opposition; the House of 65 Democrats and 31 opposition. This gives the Democrats 66 majority on joint ballot.

Here is the list, the numbers of the senatorial districts being indicated:

SENATE.

Twenty-second: Bedford—H. C. Lowry, Bedford City, Va.

Thirty-eighth: Elizabeth City, Warwick, York, James City, Charles City, New Kent, King William—M. H. Barnes, Boulevard, Va.

Thirty-second: Southampton, Isle of Wight, Nansemond—R. E. Boykin, Smithfield—E. S. Surgrave, Bladewater.

Loudoun—John F. Ryan, Arcola, and Faquier—D. C. Fletcher.

Louisa—H. J. Hale, Elk Creek.

Grayson and Madison—George W. Graves, Evadai, and Sassafras—J. H. Murphy, Lynchburg City—R. Harrison, Lynchburg.

Lee—S. S. Surgeoner, Bladewater.

Loudoun—John F. Ryan, Arcola, and Faquier—D. C. Fletcher.

Louisa—H. J. Hale, Elk Creek.

Mecklenburg—T. E. Williams, Buxton.

Nelson—J. E. Bookler, Suffolk.

Nelson—H. T. Harris, Myndus.

New Kent, Charles City, James City, York, Warwick, and Williamsburg—T. T. Powell, Newport News.

Norfolk City—M. T. Coke, Norfolk City; W. E. Foster, Norfolk City.

Norfolk County—M. S. Newberry, Germantown.

Northampton and Accommac—Charles Thompson City—W. F. McRae, Petersburg.

Pamunkey and City of Darville—J. W. Gregory, Pickaway; (o) Henry Berry, (o) W. H. H. Cooke, and (o) S. H. Wood.

Portsmouth—C. T. Bland, Portsmouth.

Princess Anne—(o) D. O. Batten, Prince Edward—(o) Colin Stokes, Farmville.

Prince George and Surry—S. B. Barnes, Prince William—G. G. Galleher, Hickory Grove.

Pulaski and Giles—J. W. Williams, Pulaski.

Rappahannock—J. B. Miller, Sperryville.

Richmond City—John S. Harwood, Richmond.

Rutherford—L. A. Alton Cabil, (o) T. B. Murphy, and W. F. Reddy.

Rockbridge—J. S. Craig, Goshen Bridge; B. F. Leech, Oakdale.

Rockingham—B. G. Patterson, Harrisonburg; (o) W. H. Zirkle, Hedgesville.

Rosewell—C. J. Rose, (o) W. S. Sager.

Salem—J. C. Parker, Franklin.

Smyth and Bland—H. L. Morgan, Saltville.

Spotsylvania and City of Fredericksburg—W. Smith, Lewiston, and King George.

Stafford and King George—(o) W. J. Rogers.

Tazewell—(o) James W. Smith, Washington—(o) J. M. Butt and (o) A. P. Rambo.

Wythe—(o) S. R. Sayers.

CHESTERFIELD COMPOSER.

Mrs. Henson Justis Writes a Beautiful Song—Wild Ducks Tamed.

MIDDLETHORPE, VA., November 16.—(Special)—Mrs. Henson P. Justis, who lives near this place, has just published a beautiful song, the words and music both being her own compositions. The song is called "Baby's Greeting," and is in the form of a lullaby, and while like most music of this class, it is simple and easy, yet the melody is very fine, and reflects much credit upon the composer. Mrs. Justis should be given credit for the production, as was her first effort in this line, and clearly indicates decided talent.

Mrs. Justis belongs to a musical family, and is herself an accomplished vocalist.

She is a sister of Mr. Hudson S. Watkins, the sweet tenor of your city, to whom the song is dedicated. A splendid picture of Mr. Watkins adorns the outside cover of a beautiful little child of Mrs. Justis's was the inspiration which dictated the tender and pathetic verses of the song, which are as follows:

I'd a treasure in my home,

That was dearer far to me.

Then the gold and all the gems of earth store,

And at eve when work was done,

I could hear my darling baby at the door.

Oh her eyes were large and bright,

As the stars that shine at night,

And the curls hung 'round her head like shower of gold,

With her sitting on my knee,

I was rich as I could be,

While the music of her voice rejoiced my soul.

But an angel came and called

My sweet baby home to Heaven,

And my home no longer seems like home to me.

For so sadly do I miss Her bright smile and loving kiss,

And the words that ever were so dear to me!

When at last I near the shore,

Where my babe has gone before,

And the weariness and strife of life are o'er;

Oh, what joy to me 't will be,

When her angel face I see,

And her loving tones float out to welcome me!

CHORUS.

Here comes papa! Here comes papa!

Coming home to me,

Papa's coming, papa's coming,

Home to stay with me.

At present the old Grove shaft is the

only one of the mines here that is in

active operation, but this one is lifting

quite a good quantity of coal, and is

giving employment to a number of men.

Several other shafts are being prepared

for operation, and it is possible that

they will start up shortly.

Mr. Basil Watkins, who lives near

Dixie Bridge, has on his farm five wild

ducks, that are said to be beautiful

birds. Mr. Watkins says that when they

march across the yard they look like

soldiers on dress parade, their plumage

being of the most brilliant and beautiful

colors. He has a large cage in which he

keeps them, and brought the eggs to his home.

He put them under an old hen, and when

they hatched out he cut the end joint

off one wing of each, so as to prevent

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